

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:359
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
REVISION OF NORMS FOR CRF
Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to revise the norms for eligibility under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any request has been received from the flood-affected States to relax the existing norms fixed for eligibility under CRF; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.359 FOR 23.12.2008 REGARDING "REVISION OF NORMS FOR CRF"

(a) to (d): It has generally been a practice to review and revise the items & norms of assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) after the Award of a Finance Commission is accepted by the Government. The last such revision was made in June 2007, after the Award of the Twelfth Finance Commission. These norms, framed after consultations with State Governments and line Central Ministries, are applied uniformly to all the States, while providing assistance from CRF/NCCF. As such there is no proposal for revision of norms under CRF/NCCF and this will be considered after receipt of Award of 13th Finance Commission.

The Government of Rajasthan had sought relaxation in the conditions of assistance for replacement of animals, relaxation in time prescribed for cattle camps and repair/restoration of immediate nature of the damaged infrastructure, as well as provision of material component under employment generation. The State Government of Kerala had requested for inclusion of more animals in the list eligible for assistance and assistance for cattle sheds.

Similarly, the State of Bihar had requested for relaxation in the norms in respect of period for operation of relief camps from 30 days to 6 months and time limit for providing Gratuitous Relief from existing 30 days to 90 days and the State of Punjab had requested for revision of norms in respect of items like input subsidy for damaged crops, assistance for loss of utensils/household goods, supplementary nutrition and fodder for cattle.

These requests have been considered and keeping in view the fact that extant items & norms have been notified on 27.6.2007 only after detailed deliberations with the States and that the recommendations of the Thirteenth Finance Commission, which is looking into the entire gamut of the CRF/NCCF Schemes, would be available within a year, it has been decided, not to accept these requests of States for revision of norms.